

B Berlin & Beyond Film Festival

22nd Edition

New films from Germany,
Austria & Switzerland

Feb 9-11, 2018
Castro Theatre

Feb 12, 2018
Shattuck Cinemas

Feb 13-15, 2018
Goethe-Institut



BerlinBeyond.com



BERLIN & BEYOND

Now in its 22nd year, the Berlin & Beyond Film Festival has been the leading festival of contemporary German cinema in the Americas since 1996.

With an annual attendance of over 10,000 film-goers, the festival has presented over 500 motion pictures from German-speaking countries in its history.

The festival has welcomed many celebrated film talents, including Mario Adorf, Fatih Akin, Moritz Bleibtreu, Daniel Brühl, Hannalore Elsner, Florian David Fitz, Bruno Ganz, Maria Schrader, Barbara Sukowa, Michael Verhoeven, and Wim Wenders.

Since its inauguration in 1996, the main venue of the festival has always been the Castro Theatre, the famous movie palace that celebrated its 95th anniversary in 2017. Berlin & Beyond has been a gateway for the public to experience the diversity, history and progress of German-speaking countries; while celebrating the universal spirit and vision of filmmakers.

GOETHE-INSTITUT

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2017, the San Francisco branch has been promoting German culture and language since 1967.

In addition to its presentation of the Berlin & Beyond Film Festival, its year-round cultural activities include art exhibitions, weekly film screenings, and partnerships with local cultural institutions. The Goethe-Institut is comprised of 159 institutes in 98 countries. Goethe.de/SF

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22nd BERLIN & BEYOND FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

CASTRO THEATRE

429 Castro Street (near Market)
San Francisco, CA 94114

FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 2018

9:30 a.m.	MY BROTHER SIMPLE	p. 23
12:30 p.m.	ROCK MY HEART	p. 23
4:00 p.m.	WE USED TO BE COOL	p. 29
6:30 p.m.	Opening Night Film WELCOME TO GERMANY	p. 9
9:00 p.m.	Opening Night Party	p. 9

SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 2018

11:00 a.m.	WUNDERLICH'S WORLD	p. 17
1:15 p.m.	THAT TRIP WE TOOK WITH DAD	p. 28
3:30 p.m.	TEXT FOR YOU	p. 24
6:30 p.m.	Centerpiece Film THE BLOOM OF YESTERDAY	p. 10
9:45 p.m.	MR. GAY SYRIA	p. 31

SUNDAY, FEB. 11, 2018

10:00 a.m.	ROCK MY HEART	p. 23
12:30 p.m.	GODLESS YOUTH	p. 16
4:00 p.m.	STREAKER	p. 17
6:15 p.m.	THREE PEAKS	p. 27
8:30 p.m.	Closing Night Film EGON SCHIELE: DEATH AND THE MAIDEN	p. 11

SHATTUCK CINEMAS

2230 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94704

MONDAY, FEB. 12, 2018

4:30 p.m.	GODLESS YOUTH	p. 16
7:00 p.m.	WELCOME TO GERMANY	p. 9
9:45 p.m.	EGON SCHIELE: DEATH AND THE MAIDEN	p. 11

GOETHE-INSTITUT AUDITORIUM

530 Bush Street (street entry)
San Francisco, CA 94108

TUESDAY, FEB. 13, 2018

6:00 p.m.	CODE OF SURVIVAL	p. 30
8:00 p.m.	PARADISE	p. 29

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14, 2018

6:00 p.m.	THE FINAL JOURNEY	p. 25
8:00 p.m.	BEUYS	p. 30

THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 2018

6:00 p.m.	MY BROTHER SIMPLE	p. 23
8:15 p.m.	DREAM BOAT	p. 31

All foreign-language films will be shown with English subtitles.

BerlinBeyond.com

Details, Updates & Trailers



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February 3rd



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WELCOME - WILLKOMMEN

Welcome to the 22nd Berlin & Beyond Film Festival! Join us for three full days and nights at San Francisco's legendary Castro Theatre (Feb. 9-11), a night of encores at Shattuck Cinemas in Berkeley (Feb. 12), and three evenings at the Goethe-Institut (Feb. 13-15). Engage with our vivid selection of films, crossing cultures, experiences, histories, and vital topics, along with film talents present for engaging post-film Q&As.

Since 1996, Berlin & Beyond Film Festival has been North America's leading annual showcase solely dedicated to the cinematic movements of German-speaking countries. Each year, we roll out the red carpet to welcome top films and talents of the year from this region, from major box office hits to award winners, to smaller productions and discoveries from up-and-coming filmmakers.

Several films reflect on belonging and identity. Our Opening Night Film is the social comedy **Welcome to Germany**, directed and written by Simon Verhoeven, who will join us. This film, along with the courageous documentary **Mr. Gay Syria**, engage us in conversations about the global refugee crisis.

Our Youth 4 German Cinema (Y4GC) program is honored to have the presence of Markus Goller, the director and co-screenwriter of **My Brother Simple**, the 2017-2018 Y4GC winning film. Renowned Swiss filmmaker Alain Gsponer will present the North American Premiere of **Godless Youth**, his cinematic vision based on the enduringly popular novel by Ödön von Horváth.

We are also thrilled to welcome to town two of Germany's most talented actors, and we will honor their on-going career achievements with the Spotlight Award in Acting. Frederick Lau, with his memorable roles in such groundbreaking films as **The Wave** and **Victoria**, is here with **My Brother Simple** and **Text for You**. Lars Eidinger, who has quite an international portfolio with recent film works as **Clouds of Sils Maria** and **Personal Shopper**, is here to present our Centerpiece film, **The Bloom of Yesterday**.



Stories of bold and provocative artists are on display with Dieter Berner's fascinating drama **Egon Schiele: Death and the Maiden** on Closing Night, and Andres Veiel's new documentary on the life of Joseph Beuys.

We are proud to present captivating films by women directors: the documentary **Mr. Gay Syria** by Ayse Toprak; the directorial feature debut by Karoline Herfurth, **Text for You**; the generational film, **We Used to Be Cool** by Marie Kreutzer; the road movie set in 1968, **That Trip We Took with Dad** by Anca Miruna Lăzărescu. This year marks 50 years since the international Protests of 1968, with civil rights protests, progressive political movements, and the fights for free speech and reforms that changed the world.

We are grateful for the empowering support of our sponsors, partners, and friends from near and far, whose steadfast generosity makes this festival possible. Likewise, we extend our gratitude to our hardworking and dedicated festival team, volunteers, and collaborators. Special thanks to the filmmakers and industry professionals for sharing their cinematic works with us.

We are most grateful to you, the festival-goers, for attending Berlin & Beyond year after year. Get ready to join us for a cinematic adventure! Thank you. Vielen Dank.

Sigrid Savelsberg

Director, Goethe-Institut San Francisco
President, Berlin & Beyond

Sophoan Sorn

Festival Director, Berlin & Beyond

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OPENING NIGHT FILM



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WELCOME TO GERMANY

WILLKOMMEN BEI DEN HARTMANNS

Fri. Feb. 9, 2018 6:30 p.m.

Castro Theatre, San Francisco

Northern California Premiere

In Person: Simon Verhoeven

Mon. Feb. 12, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Shattuck Cinemas, Berkeley

116 min. Germany (2016). DCP.

German w/ English subtitles.

Director/Screenwriter: Simon Verhoeven

Starring: Senta Berger, Heiner Lauterbach,

Florian David Fitz, Palina Rojinski,

Elyas M'Barek, Eric Kabongo

Cinematography: Jo Helm

Producers: Simon Verhoeven, Quirin Berg,

Max Wiedemann, Michael Verhoeven

World Sales: Picture Tree International

Opening Night Sponsors:



EXCELSIOR GERMAN CENTER OAKLAND

**BMW
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Winner of the German Film Award Audience Award, the Bavarian Film Award for Best Film, the BAMBI for National Film, and nominated for European Comedy at the European Film Awards.

Recently retired teacher Angelika decides, against her skeptical husband Richard's will, to take in a refugee. Soon afterward, the young Nigerian Diallo moves into the Hartmann's home, and a whirlwind of complications ensue. These events not only disrupt the lives of Angelika and Richard's adult children Philip and Sophie; they also put their own marriage as well as Diallo's chances of integration to the test. Despite all the chaos, hope prevails that the family will recover its stability, confidence, and peace. This timely social comedy was Germany's most successful local film of 2016 and the first part of 2017, and stars veteran actress Senta Berger.

OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Fri. Feb. 9, 2018 9:00 p.m.

In the theatre's mezzanine level, celebrate with old and new friends, meet our special guests, and savor a variety of appetizers and drinks.



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THE BLOOM OF YESTERDAY

DIE BLUMEN VON GESTERN

Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 6:30 p.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco
San Francisco Premiere
In Person: Lars Eidinger

123 min. Germany (2016). DCP.
German w/ English subtitles.

Director/Screenwriter: Chris Kraus
Starring: Lars Eidinger, Adèle Haenel,
Jan Josef Liefers, Hannah Herzprung
Cinematography: Sonja Rom
Producers: Danny Krausz, Kathrin Lemme,
Chris Kraus, Gerd Huber, Kurt Stocker
World Sales: Beta Cinema

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DW(Deutsch+)

**Grand Prix and Viewer's Choice Award
winner at the Tokyo International Film
Festival and winner of the Guild of German
Art House Cinemas Award.**

Toto (Lars Eidinger, *Personal Shopper*, *Clouds of Sils Maria*) is an esteemed Holocaust scholar. He is also the grandson of a Nazi war criminal. While organizing a conference, Toto takes on an intern named Zazie (Adèle Haenel, *BPM (Beats Per Minute)*, *The Unknown Girl*), who's the granddaughter of a Holocaust victim. After a rocky meet-cute, the two bond, speak candidly about their familial legacies, and stumble toward romance. Which may or may not be a problem for the married—yet ostensibly impotent—Toto. The latest film from Chris Kraus, (*The Poll Diaires*, *4 Minutes*) the audacious *The Bloom of Yesterday* wrings comedy from unfathomable atrocity. Yet the film's lightness allows its inherent gravity to settle fully once we apprehend its true message: that every generation must find its own path to reckoning with the daunting shadows of history.
– Miami International Film Festival



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EGON SCHIELE: DEATH AND THE MAIDEN

EGON SCHIELE: TOD UND MÄDCHEN

Sun. Feb. 11, 2018 8:30 p.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco
San Francisco Premiere

Mon. Feb. 12, 2018 9:45 p.m.
Shattuck Cinemas, Berkeley

110 min. Austria, Luxembourg (2016).
DCP. German w/ English subtitles.

Director: Dieter Berner
Starring: Noah Saavedra, Maresi Riegner,
Valerie Pachner, Marie Jung
Screenwriters: Hilde Berger,
Dieter Berner
Cinematography: Carsten Thiele
Producers: Franz Novotny, Alexander
Glehr, Alexander Dumreicher-Ivanceanu,
Bady Minck
World Sales: Picture Tree International

At the beginning of the 20th century, Egon Schiele is one of the most provocative artists in Vienna. His life and work are driven by beautiful women and an era that is coming to an end. Two women will have a lasting impact on him – his sister and first muse, Gerti, and 17-year-old Wally, arguably Schiele's one true love, immortalized in his famous painting "Death and the Maiden". Schiele's radical paintings scandalize Viennese society while daring artists like Gustav Klimt and art agents alike are sensing the exceptional. But Egon Schiele is also prepared to go beyond his own pain and to sacrifice love and life for his art.

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Made for minds.



Sit back and enjoy the details

Kino is your chance to get the inside story on German film-making. From award winning actors and directors to the latest trends and blockbusters.

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SPECIAL GUESTS



Courtesy of Markus Goller

MARKUS GOLLER

Director/Screenwriter of "My Brother Simple"

Markus Goller was born in 1969 in Munich. He began his career in the film business in the early 1990s as a freelance editor for short films, commercials and documentary films, including German and American feature film productions from 1996 on. His second directorial work *Friendship!* was a surprise hit with over 1.6 million admissions. *Eine ganz heiße Nummer* (2010/11) and *Mrs. Ella* (2012/13) were also box office hits in Germany. *My Brother Simple* (2016/17) is his sixth directorial work. In 2017 Markus Goller directed and produced with his production company, Sunny Side Up, the road movie *25 km/h*.

ALAIN GSPONER

Director of "Godless Youth"

Alain Gsponer was born in 1976 in Zürich. He studied at the Baden-Württemberg Film Academy in Ludwigsburg. His mid-length graduation film, *Kiki and Tiger* (2002), won the Max Ophüls Festival Audience Award and was shown around the world. His feature debut, *Rose* (2005), won the German Television Award for Best Film. This was followed by the tragicomedy *Das wahre Leben* (2006) and two adaptations of books by best-selling author Martin Suter, *Lila, Lila* (2009) and *Der letzte Weynfeldt* (2010), which won the Swiss Television Award for Best Film. After directing the adaptation of the classic children's book, *The Little Ghost* (2013), his new vision of *Heidi* (2015) became the highest-grossing Swiss film in local box office ever. His latest film is the adaptation of Ödön von Horváth's "Jugend ohne Gott".



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SIMON VERHOEVEN

Director/Screenwriter of "Welcome to Germany"

Simon Verhoeven was born in 1972 in Munich. He studied Performing Arts at the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute in New York, Film Music at Berklee College of Music in Boston and Film Directing at the Tisch School of the Arts in New York. He has appeared as an actor in numerous television and feature films. In addition to numerous music videos and short films, his feature films as a director include: *100 Pro* (2001), *Men in the City 1 & 2* (2009 & 2011), *Unfriend* (2014), and *Welcome to Germany* (2016), which garnered over 4.2 million admissions, and was honored with the German Film Award LOLA, the Bavarian Film Award for Best Film, the BAMBI for National Film and numerous other awards. It was also nominated for European Comedy at the European Film Awards.

SPECIAL GUESTS

LARS EIDINGER

SPOTLIGHT AWARD IN ACTING

We are proud to celebrate the ongoing career achievements of German actor Lars Eideringer by presenting him with the Berlin & Beyond Film Festival's Spotlight Award in Acting, and screening *The Bloom of Yesterday* as this year's Centerpiece Film on February 10th at 6:30 PM at the Castro Theatre. An award tribute program will precede the film's projection.

Lars Eideringer was born in 1976 in Berlin, and studied at the prestigious Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Art. Since 2000 he has been an ensemble member at the Schaubühne in Berlin. His bold, fearless, and unconventional portrayals of "Hamlet" and "Richard III" in the productions of Thomas Ostermeier were internationally acclaimed and made him a formative actor of the Schaubühne.

Next to his work on the stage, Lars Eideringer is constantly working in national and international cinema and television productions. His breakthrough in film came in 2009 when he played the male lead role alongside Birgit Minichmayr in Maren Ade's Berlinale Silver Bear-winning drama, *Everyone Else*.

He went on to work with Peter Greenaway in *Goltzius and the Pelican Company* (2012), with Hans-Christian Schmid in *Home for the Weekend* (2012), with Christian Alvert with *Tatort - Borowski und der stille Gast* (2012), with Laura Bispuri in *Sworn Virgin* (2015), and with Lars Kraume in *Family Party* (2014), which held its international premiere and won the Audience Award at the 2015 Berlin & Beyond Film Festival.

He garnered further international attention for his work, appearing alongside Juliette Binoche in *Clouds of Sils Maria* (2014) and opposite Kristen Stewart in *Personal Shopper* (2016). Both films were directed by Olivier Assayas and premiered at Festival de Cannes.



He received nominations for the German Television Awards as Best Actor in 2010 for *Relations*, in 2013 for *Polizeiruf - Der Tod macht Engel aus uns allen*, and in 2017 for two roles - in *Family Party* and *The Verdict* (2017 Berlin & Beyond Autumn Showcase). In 2013, he received the German Film Critics Award for Best Actor and in 2014, the Adolf Grimme Award.

In 2017, he appeared in three major TV productions: BBC's *SS-GB*, the Wachowskis' boundary-pushing *Sense8*, and *Babylon Berlin*. In recent cinema, he transformed into the role of Tsar Nicholas II in Aleksey Uchitel's *Mathilda* (2017). This year, we can look forward to seeing him in Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck's *Work Without Author*, Claire Denis' *High Life*, Christian Alvert's *Abgeschnitten*, and Markus Goller's road movie *25 km/h*.

In addition to acting, he is a musician and DJ, and lives in Berlin.

At this year's festival, we are honoring both Frederick Lau and Lars Eideringer with the Spotlight Award in Acting. Previous honorees were Julia Jentsch in 2017, Tom Schilling in 2016, and Ronald Zehrfeld in 2015.

SPECIAL GUESTS

FREDERICK LAU

SPOTLIGHT AWARD IN ACTING

We are proud to celebrate the ongoing career achievements of German actor Frederick Lau by presenting him with the Berlin & Beyond Film Festival's Spotlight Award in Acting. He is in two films at this year's festival, *My Brother Simple* (Dir. Markus Goller) and *Text for You* (Dir. Karoline Herfurth). An award tribute program will precede the projection of *Text for You* on February 10th at 3:30 PM at the Castro Theatre.

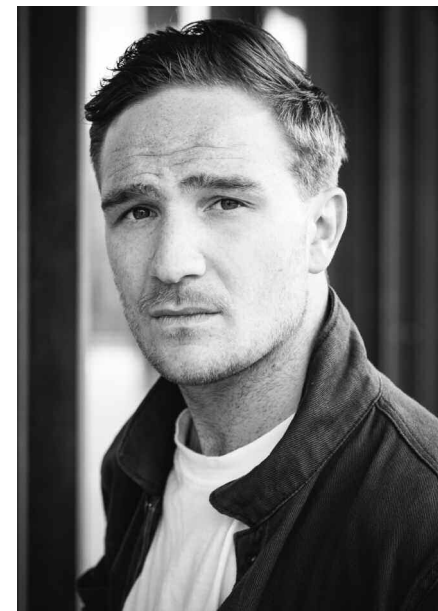
Frederick Lau was born in 1989 in Berlin. He was ten when he first appeared on-screen, and since then has had roles in over 50 German and international film and television productions. His first award was the youth-juried Golden Sparrow for his role in Karola Hattop's *Second Hand Child* (2004).

His breakthrough came in 2008 with the role of young student Tim Stoltefuss in Dennis Gansel's box-office hit *The Wave*, a tale based on Ron Jones' social experiment, "The Third Wave". Frederick Lau received the German Film Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role.

This was followed by feature film performances in Julie Delpy's international production *The Countess* (2009) and Philip Koch's highly-acclaimed youth drama *Picco* (2010).

He became a familiar face on television, appearing in numerous German crime series and TV films. In 2011, he was honored with the Grimme Award and the Bavarian Television Award for his lead role in Hermine Huntgeburth's *Neue Vahr Süd* (2010).

A major milestone came in 2015 for his lead role with Laia Costa in Sebastian Schipper's exhilarating thriller *Victoria*, which remains one of the few feature films shot in a single continuous take. The film swept the German Film Awards, including Best Film in Gold and Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role for Frederick Lau.



Other noteworthy works include *Life's Not for Cowards* (2012, Dir. André Erkau), *Oh Boy/A Coffee in Berlin* (2012, Dir. Jan-Ole Gerster), *Back on Track* (2013, Dir. Kilian Riedhof), *Punk Berlin 1982* (2015, Dir. Oskar Roehler), the fairytale *Heart of Stone* (2016, Dir. Johannes Naber), and *Scrappin'* (2016, Max Zähle), Opening Night Film of the 2017 Berlin & Beyond Film Festival.

In 2017, he was in the TV series *4 Blocks* as well as the feature film *My Brother Simple* (Dir. Markus Goller) alongside David Kross. This year, he can be seen in the psychological thriller *Gutland* (Dir. Govinda Van Maele), the World War II film *The Captain* (Dir. Robert Schwentke), and the romantic comedy *Alles Wuff* (Dir. Detlev Buck).

At this year's festival, we are honoring both Frederick Lau and Lars Eideringer with the Spotlight Award in Acting. Previous honorees were Julia Jentsch in 2017, Tom Schilling in 2016, and Ronald Zehrfeld in 2015.



GODLESS YOUTH

JUGEND OHNE GOTT

Sun. Feb. 11, 2018 12:30 p.m.

Castro Theatre, San Francisco

North American Premiere

In Person: Alain Gsponer

Mon. Feb. 12, 2018 4:30 p.m.

Shattuck Cinemas, Berkeley

110 min. Germany (2017). DCP.
German w/ English subtitles.

Director: Alain Gsponer

Starring: Jannis Niewöhner, Fahri Ogün
Yardim, Emilia Schüle, Alicia von Rittberg,
Jannik Schümann

Screenwriters: Alex Buresch,
Matthias Pacht

Cinematography: Frank Lamm
Producers: Sophia Aldenhoven,
Uli Aselmann

World Sales: Beta Cinema

Swiss filmmaker Alain Gsponer (Heidi, Rose) helms this new cinematic vision based on Austro-Hungarian-born writer Ödön von Horváth's enduringly popular, 1938 dark fable about guilt, fate, and the individual conscience – "Jugend ohne Gott" [also released as "The Age of the Fish"].

In a dystopian, performance-oriented society, adolescents struggle for good grades while their dreams are shattered by an indifferent system. In a not-to-distant future, in which integration serves to protect the elite and isolate the weak, the cities are hellholes and the countryside holds the fairytale promise of a better life, a young school girl is found in the woods during the annual graduates' assessment camp. Known for his upstanding morals, a teacher breaks with his own values on a quest for the truth – and is increasingly entangled in a net of his own lies. Suddenly someone confesses to a murder that they couldn't have committed, and the fragile cohesion of a youthful elite society is threatened to destroy itself.



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STREAKER

FLITZER



Switzerland.

Sun. Feb. 11, 2018 4:00 p.m.

Castro Theatre, San Francisco

Northern California Premiere

Director: Peter Luisi

Starring: Beat Schlatter, Bendrit Bajra,
Doro Müggler, Luna Wedler, Una Rusca,
Pablo Aguilar

World Sales: m-appeal

94 min. Switzerland (2017). DCP.
Swiss German w/ English subtitles.

**Winner of Best Direction and Best Foreign
Feature Film at the 2017 LA Comedy Fest.**

The latest comedy from Swiss filmmaker Peter Luisi (Unlikely Heroes, Why We Try). In the hope of solving his financial difficulties, Balz Näf (53), a German teacher living in the town of Baden in Switzerland, comes up with the idea to use streakers for sport-betting. Although he and his team help streaking achieve a new trend-sport status, his financial situation remains unchanged. On the contrary. He falls in love with the police commissioner who has been hired to stop him. In the end there is only one way out: He has to be a man's man and get on the field himself.

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WUNDERLICH'S WORLD

DIE WELT DER WUNDERLICH'S



Switzerland.

Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 11:00 a.m.

Castro Theatre, San Francisco

North American Premiere

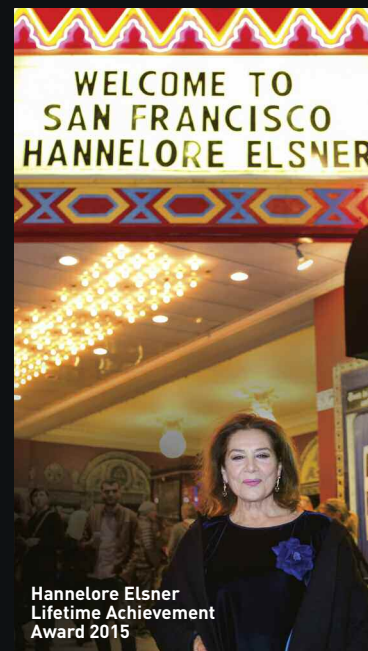
Director: Dani Levy

Starring: Katharina Schüttler,
Ewi Rodriguez, Peter Simonischek,
Christiane Paul, Martin Feifel,
Hannelore Elsner, Steffen Groth

Production: X Filme Creative Pool,
Zodiac Pictures International

103 min. Germany, Switzerland (2016).
DCP. German w/ English subtitles.

The most recent work from Swiss filmmaker and actor Dani Levy (Go for Zucker, Silent Night). Mimi has her hands full. Her son Felix is hyperactive, her ex-husband Johnny is a mess, and her father is a chronic gambler. Then Felix signs her up for a televised Swiss talent show, knowing that his mother has always wanted to be a musician. So Mimi decides to head for Switzerland for the competition, with great hope that it could pay all their debts. However, the whole family decides that they want to come along...





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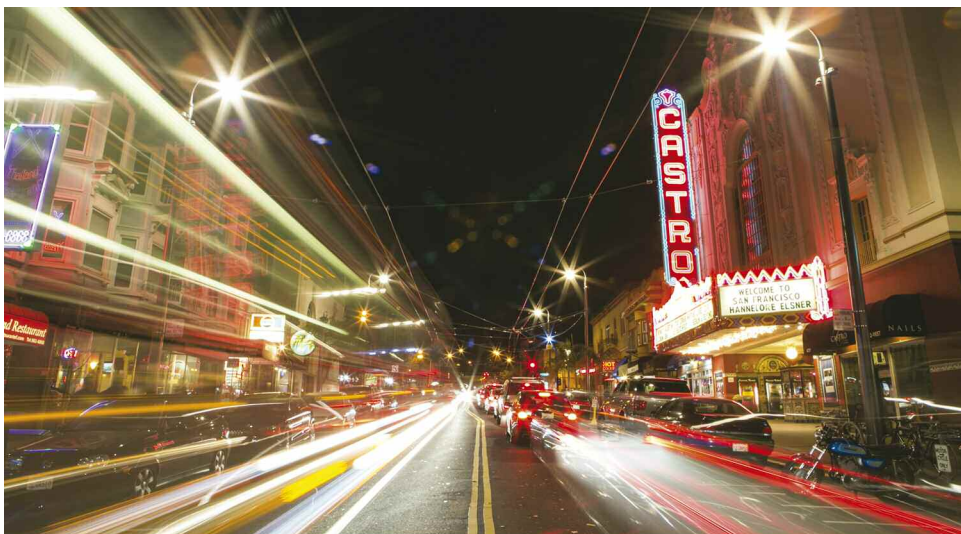
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YOUTH 4 GERMAN CINEMA



Y4GC 2017-2018 PROGRAM

2017-2018 marks the fifth year of the **Youth 4 German Cinema** program, organized by the Goethe-Institut San Francisco's Language Department, Berlin & Beyond Film Festival and the North American youth portal Step Into German.

Chosen from a pool of over 100 applicants, the Y4GC program offers high school-aged students across the US, Mexico, and Canada the opportunity to participate as jurors in the selection of two winning films that will screen at the festival for hundreds of visiting middle school and high school students, particularly those from institutions that highlight the German language in their programs.

The jury also goes behind the scenes and participate at our international film festival, meet industry professionals, participate in an industry craft camp, increase cross-cultural awareness through cinema.

The 2017-2018 Youth for German Cinema Jury chose Markus Goller's cross-generational sibling drama, *My Brother Simple*, as this year's winning film, and awarded runner-up honors to Hanno Olderdissen's life-affirming film, *Rock My Heart*.

Presented with the support of:



INTERNATIONAL JURY

- Liam Arnold, 16, Bel Air, Maryland
- Erick Cardona, 16, Puebla, Puebla, Mexico
- Dean Gelling, 16, West Chester, Pennsylvania
- Sofia Kajzer, 15, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- Lea Pailassard, 18, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- Elizabeth Wood, 18, Albany, Oregon

FILM CAMP



The jurors will take part in a special workshop with German-American actress and filmmaker **Caitlin Gerard**, to gain insight into the film industry, the acting field, and film production. Los Angeles-born Caitlin Gerard has been in several major film and television productions, including John Ridley's *American Crime* for ABC, Dustin Lance Black's mini-series *When We Rise*, and the feature films *Insidious: Chapter 4* and David Fincher's *Social Network*. She also directed the short film *Silent Night*, and has two shorts in pre-production, *Mirage* and *Prism*.



Photographs by Barak Shrama

Y4GC MEMORIES

- Y4GC 2016-2017 jury on the red carpet. Philip Alexander Schwentek (Canada), Alienor Rose Goodman (USA), Jonathan Christopher Kuse (USA), Ainara Murueta Arreola (Mexico), Logan Tarbert Chelmo (USA), Angel Olea Romero Ugarte (Mexico).
- Students from across Northern California packed the Castro Theatre for the screenings of the two Y4GC-winning films.
- Film Producer Fritjof Hohagen accepted the Y4GC 2016-2017 Runner-up Award for his film "Hanna's Sleeping Dogs".
- Group photo beneath the Castro marquee.
- Post-film Q&A in the grand Castro Theatre.



MY BROTHER SIMPLE SIMPEL

Youth 4 German Cinema Winner

Fri. Feb. 9, 2018 9:30 a.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco
North American Premiere
In Person: Markus Goller
and Frederick Lau

Thu. Feb. 15, 2018 6:00 p.m.
Goethe-Institut, San Francisco

Director: Markus Goller
Starring: David Kross, Frederick Lau,
Emilia Schüle, Devid Striesow
World Sales: Global Screen

113 min. Germany (2017). DCP (Castro) &
BD (Goethe-Institut). German w/ English
subtitles.

Ever since Ben can think, he and his brother they call "Simple" have been thick as thieves. Simple is 22 years old, but mentally he's a three-year-old. Even if Simple can be a nuisance, Ben can't imagine life without him. When their mother dies unexpectedly, Simple is forced to be sent to a care home, but Ben won't allow it. They run away together, and after a crazy odyssey and a night spent outside under the stars, Ben realizes there's only one way out: They have to find their dad, whom they haven't seen for 15 years. **My Brother Simple** is based on the novel by French writer Marie-Aude Murail and stars two of Germany's most talented young actors.



ROCK MY HEART

Youth 4 German Cinema Runner-up

Fri. Feb. 9, 2018 12:30 p.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco

Sun. Feb. 11, 2018 10:00 a.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco

Director: Hanno Olderdissen
Starring: Anneke Kim Sarnau,
Emilio Sakraya, Lena Klenke,
Dieter Hallervorden
World Sales: Wild Bunch

105 min. Germany (2016). DCP.
German w/ English subtitles.

Sixteen-year-old Jana has a heart defect that could end her life at any moment. Furious at her fate, she rebels against her illness and her despairing parents. She also rejects a new treatment for fear of the side effects. When she meets the reclusive racing trainer Paul and the seemingly wild stallion 'Rock My Heart', it becomes clear that she is the only one who can work with the highly sensitive animal. Paul convinces her to enter a prize race with Rock, training her to be a jockey. Although at her physical limits, Jana hides her illness from Paul. Not even her parents know of her plans. Even when her illness seems to strike her down, she doesn't let go of her dreams. She knows it takes courage to race, but it takes even more to say yes to life again.



© Anne Wink/Hellinger Doll Filmproduktion/Warner Bros. Entertainment

TEXT FOR YOU

SMS FÜR DICH

Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 3:30 p.m.
 Castro Theatre, San Francisco
US West Coast Premiere
 In Person: Frederick Lau

111 min. Germany (2016). DCP.
 German w/ English subtitles.

Director: Karoline Herfurth
Starring: Karoline Herfurth,
 Friedrich Mücke, Nora Tschirner,
 Frederick Lau
Screenwriters: Andrea Willson,
 Malte Welding, Karoline Herfurth
Cinematography: Andreas Berger
Producers: Christopher Doll,
 Lothar Hellinger
World Sales: Beta Cinema

Clara (Karoline Herfurth, *Vincent Wants to Sea*) simply can't get over the loss of her beloved Ben, who died two years ago in a car accident. Even her headstrong roommate Katja is barely able to coax her friend back to life. However, Clara continues sending wistful text messages to Ben's old cell phone number without realizing that the number has been recently reassigned, and her romantic, loving memories pop up directly in the new phone of sports journalist Mark (Friedrich Mücke, *Friendship!*). Perplexed yet touched, he reads all the text messages... and in his confusion, stumbles from one blunder to the next regarding his girlfriend Fiona. All the same: he's got to find the mysterious stranger at all costs, and enlists his best friend David to help him in the search...



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THE FINAL JOURNEY

LEANDERS LETZTE REISE

Wed. Feb. 14, 2018 6:00 p.m.
 Goethe-Institut, San Francisco
North American Premiere

107 min. Germany (2017). BD.
 German, Russian, English, Polish
 w/ English subtitles.

Director: Nick Baker-Monteys
Starring: Jürgen Prochnow,
 Petra Schmidt-Schaller, Tambet Tuisk,
 Suzanne von Borsody
Screenwriters: Nick Baker-Monteys,
 Alexandra Umminger
Cinematography: Eeva Fleig
Producers: Christian Alvar, Siegfried Kamml, Timm Oberwelland
World Sales: Global Screen

When Eduard's (Jürgen Prochnow, *The Boat, The English Patient*) wife dies, his daughter wants to put him in a home. Instead he gets on a train, embarking on an odyssey that does not end until he gets to Russia. Eduard is searching for the woman he fell in love with while serving alongside the Cossacks, many of whom fought with the Wehrmacht against the Red Army. Eduard has never spoken about his wartime experiences, which have thrown a long shadow over the family. He has a terrible relationship with his daughter. And his granddaughter, Adele, can't stand the cantankerous old man. But when Adele's mother tells her to go to the station in Berlin and get Eduard off the train, she reluctantly agrees: he's over 90, belongs in a home and there's a war about to break out in eastern Ukraine. Unable to stop Eduard, Adele is forced to jump on the train to Kiev and join him. The journey forces Eduard to confront his true feelings and his past. And Adele slowly begins to realize that Eduard's war, which she always thought had nothing to do with her, is the key to who she is.

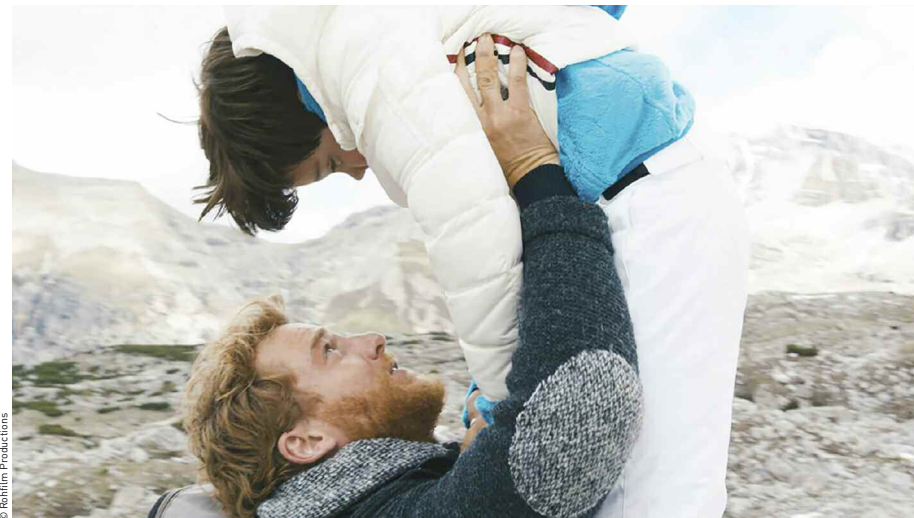


FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS

ALEXANDER FEHLING TOM SCHILLING VOLKER BRUCH LOUIS HOFMANN JANNIS NIEWÖHNER RONALD ZEHRFELD



FEATURES



THREE PEAKS

DREI ZINNEN

Sun. Feb. 11, 2018 6:15 p.m.

Castro Theatre, San Francisco

Northern California Premiere

94 min. Germany, Italy (2017). DCP.

German, English, French

w/ English subtitles.

Director/Screenwriter: Jan Zabeil

Starring: Alexander Fehling,

Bérénice Bejo, Arian Montgomery

Cinematography: Axel Schnepf

Producers: Benny Drechsel,

Andreas Pichler, Philipp Moravetz

US Distributor: Greenwich Entertainment

Presented with the support of:



Variety Piazza Grande Award winner at the 2017 Locarno International Film Festival in Switzerland and Opening Night Film of the 2017 Hof International Film Festival in Germany.

A family drama about diverging ideas of fatherhood, as an unforeseen event turns a mountainside vacation into a survival trip. Although Aaron (Alexander Fehling, *Young Goethe in Love*) has been dating Lea (Bérénice Bejo, *The Artist*) for some time, his relationship with Tristan, her eight-year-old son, remains cautious. Their holiday in the Italian Dolomites was planned as the starting point of a new life together, but a hiking trip that Aaron plans in order to win the boy's respect turns into something potentially more tragic when fog sets in and he loses the boy. Jan Zabeil carefully observes small moments that are so heartbreakingly familiar to anyone who has experienced the precarious territory of contemporary family life. Set against the majestic backdrop of the Italian mountain range, this visually striking and emotionally complex film is an intimate drama and a probing exploration of both an existential and a very real crisis.



THAT TRIP WE TOOK WITH DAD

DIE REISE MIT VATER

Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 1:15 p.m.
 Castro Theatre, San Francisco
San Francisco Premiere

111 min. Germany, Romania, Hungary, Sweden (2016). DCP. German and Romanian w/ English subtitles.

Director: Anca Miruna Lăzărescu
 Starring: Alex Mărgineanu, Răzvan Enciu, Ovidiu Schumacher, Susanne Bormann, Manuel Klein
 Screenwriter: Anca Miruna Lăzărescu
 Cinematography: Christian Stangassinger
 Producer: David Lindner Leporda
 Production: Filmallee GmbH

A road movie that begins in 1968, in Arad. Mihai and Emil are two brothers of Romanian and German origin who have only one thing in common: their sick father and the care that he needs. Mihai, the older brother, is a doctor and, with uncertainty in his heart, an informer for the Security. He seems to have come to terms with life in Ceausescu's Romania. Emil fights with aplomb against the Stalinist imprints, getting involved in situations out of which he can be saved only by his brother's cautiousness. The two brothers, along with their father, make their way to Dresden – the closest city where their father can have his life-saving operation. However, the rather unstable political context will overthrow their plans.

– Cinepolitica International Film Festival, Romania

This year, 2018, marks the 50th anniversary of the Protests of 1968, that took place around the world. These civil rights protests, progressive political movements, and fights for free speech and reforms were turning points for human societies, and they changed the world.



PARADISE

RAI

Tue. Feb. 13, 2018 8:00 p.m.
 Goethe-Institut, San Francisco

Director: Andrey Konchalovskiy
 Starring: Julia Vysotskaya, Christian Clauss, Philippe Duquesne, Peter Kurth, Jakob Diehl, Vera Voronkova, Viktor Sukhorukov
 US Distributor: Film Movement

130 min. Russia, Germany (2016). BD. Russian, German, French, Yiddish w/ English subtitles.

Russia's submission to the 2017 Academy Awards and winner of the Silver Lion Best Director at the 2016 Venice Film Festival.

Olga, a Russian aristocratic immigrant and member of the French Resistance, is arrested by Nazi police for hiding Jewish children during a surprise raid. As her punishment, she is sent to jail where she meets Jules, a French-Nazi collaborator who is assigned to investigate her case. Jules grows fond of Olga and offers to go light on her punishment in exchange for sexual favors. Although Olga agrees, and will do whatever it takes to avoid harsh persecution, her hope for freedom quickly fades when events take an unexpected turn. Shipped to a concentration camp, she is forced into a life of hell. To her surprise, she crosses paths with high-ranking German SS officer Helmut, who once fell in love with her and still harbors feelings. They rekindle their old flame and embark on a twisted and destructive relationship.



WE USED TO BE COOL

WAS HAT UNS BLOSS SO RUINIERT

Fri. Feb. 9, 2018 4:00 p.m.
 Castro Theatre, San Francisco
North American Premiere

Director: Marie Kreutzer
 Starring: Vicky Krieps, Marcel Mohab, Pia Hierzegger, Pheline Roggan, Manuel Rubey, Andreas Kiendl
 World Sales: Picture Tree International

96 min. Austria (2016). DCP. German w/ English subtitles.

Three young couples – Stella and Markus, Ines and Chris, Mignon and Luis – are members of today's got-everything-except-a-purpose generation. Equipped with the latest gadgets they live safe in their free range, fair trade, Apple-equipped, city-center apartments. But with all their material needs covered and never having suffered from want, their state of mind is the big issue. Stella's the first to find the "solution": she gets pregnant. The others quickly follow suit and these adult "children" find that life is suddenly all too real. In a mixture of subtle and broad humor, touching moments and genuine observation, Mignon learns feeding your child only bio and boycotting nappies leads to domestic unpleasantness; Ines, now the mother of daughter Elvis, throws Chris out, whereupon he moves into his car and embarks on an affair with Stella, while she and Markus eventually find that happiness is a bicycle repair shop in the countryside. Starring Vicky Krieps (Paul Thomas Anderson's *Phantom Thread*).



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BEUYS

Wed. Feb. 14, 2018 8:00 p.m.
Goethe-Institut, San Francisco
Northern California Premiere

Director: Andres Veiel
US Distributor: Kino Lorber

107 min. Germany (2017). BD.
German w/ English subtitles.

Official Selection (In Competition) at the 2017 Berlin International Film Festival.

An intimate look at a visionary artist, seen through a congenial montage of archival sources he appears more relevant than ever before. Joseph Beuys, the man with a hat, the felt, and the "fat corner". Thirty years after his death he still seems to be a visionary, way ahead of his time. Back then he was trying to patiently explain how "money shouldn't be a commodity." He knew that money trade would undermine democracy. But there is more. Beuys boxes, parleys, lectures and explains pictures to a dead hare. He asks with a grin: "Do You Want a Revolution Without Laughter?" His expanded concept of art leads him smack in the middle of socially relevant discourse, even today. A congenial montage of countless, previously untapped visual and audio sources, director Andreas Veiel and his team created a one-of-a-kind chronicle: **Beuys** is not a portrait in the common sense but an intimate look at a human being, his art and his world of ideas.



© DENKmal Film

CODE OF SURVIVAL OR THE END OF GENETIC ENGINEERING

Tue. Feb. 13, 2018 6:00 p.m.
Goethe-Institut, San Francisco
California Premiere

Director: Bertram Verhaag
Production: DENKmal Film

95 min. Germany (2017). BD. English.

Worldwide, millions of tons of "Roundup", with its active ingredient glyphosate, are applied to the land year after year. The alarming consequences: poisoned soils, resistant superweeds, contaminated crops and sick livestock. Nonetheless, especially the United States adhere to the destructive model of GM-agriculture. Three sustainable projects in India, Egypt and Germany prove that alternatives are achievable and successful. In an impressive montage the film confronts the effects of the poison-addicted industrial model, with the healing power of organic agriculture. Which method bears the "Code of Survival" on our planet?



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DREAM BOAT

Thu. Feb. 15, 2018 8:15 p.m.
Goethe-Institut, San Francisco

Director: Tristan Ferland Milewski
US Distributor: Strand Releasing

92 min. Germany (2017). BD. English, French, German, Arabic w/ English subtitles.

Once a year the DREAM BOAT sets sail for a cruise exclusively for gay men where most passengers are united by the wish to live life authentically as themselves in a protected place: Dipankar from India escaped an arranged marriage and now throws himself into the action to find his dream man. But the gay community's ideal of masculinity increasingly becomes a tight corset for him. Ramzi from Palestine was persecuted by the police in his home country, Palestine, for being gay and had to start a new life in Europe with nothing. Frenchman Philippe was let down by his family when he was bound to a wheelchair. The more important is his long-term relationship with his partner, and his gay substitute family. Martin from Austria enjoys the hedonism and abundant choice of men to the full and gives perspectives on how to deal with HIV today. Marek from Poland, has everything he needs to stand out on the men's market, thanks to his trained body. However, he feels lonely in the crowd. Now the countdown is on for seven days of hunting for freedom, love, and happiness – but on board are also their personal stories, their doubts and uncertainties...



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MR. GAY SYRIA

Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 9:45 p.m.
Castro Theatre, San Francisco
US West Coast Premiere

Director/Writer: Ayse Toprak
World Sales: Taskovski Films

87 min. France, Germany, Turkey (2017). BD. Arabic, Turkish, English w/ English subtitles.

Winner of the Human Rights Award at the Sarajevo International Film Festival and the Silver Hugo at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Husein is a barber in Istanbul, living a double life between his conservative family and his gay identity. Mahmoud Hassino is the founder of Syria's LGBTI movement and is a refugee in Berlin. What brings them together is a dream: to participate in an international beauty contest as an escape from their trapped lives and an answer to their invisibility. Will the dream come true or will the refugee crisis and the harsh consequences of being gay in the Muslim world shatter it to pieces?



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